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HOBBS BILL THREATENS ALL UNIONS, TOBIN DECLARES

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—The Hobbs bill is another attempt "to crucify labor with endless legal procedure," President Daniel J. Tobin of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL) told Federated Press here.

"We're bitterly opposed to it and will fight it to the end," the white-haired leader of one of the largest AFL affiliates said, interviewed following passage by the House on a voice vote of the bill, which was aimed directly at the Teamsters' union.

Now up before the Senate for action, the measure (H.R. 32) would make the anti-racketeering law applicable to unions and union members and provides a maximum $20,000 fine and 10 years imprisonment for anyone who interferes with interstate commerce by "robbery or extortion."

"The so-called friends of labor in Congress who voted for the Hobbs bill were putting an ordinary working man who had a family and was trying to get a day's pay or organize his union in the same classification as a murderous holdup man," Tobin said angrily.

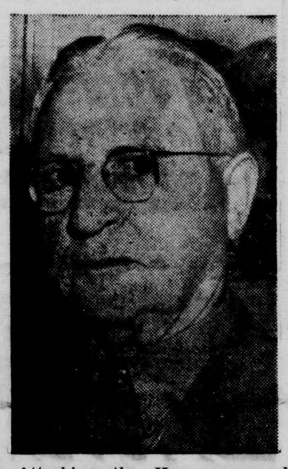
"We do not know how far this Hobbs bill will go, and all the plausible excuses that it does not mean this and it does not mean that are just so much ballyhoo," he asserted, expressing the belief that the bill would harm all of organized labor. "Interference with interstate commerce can be construed to mean anything, depending upon the prejudice of the court."

Tobin whipped into those Congressmen who claimed they were voting for the measure because of a fight many years ago between members of Teamsters' Local 807 in New York and other drivers coming in from outlying districts miles away from New York City.

At the time of the dispute, Tobin pointed out, about half the members of Local 807 were out of work and desperately seeking means of obtaining employment. They succeeded in passing motions that out-of-town trucks bringing merchandise into the city from rural districts of various states should not be permitted to penetrate father than the edges of the city and that unemployed New York truck drivers would be given the trucks to deliver the goods from there.

"It must be borne in mind that in all these proceedings, even in the court proceedings, the international union was never involved," Tobin explained. "On the contrary, it had condemned this procedure as a violation of U. S. law and the union constitution and it had succeeded in cleaning the matter up long before the case was ended in the courts."

Tobin said that at the time of the dispute he had warned officials of Local 807 of possible suspension or other disciplinary measures if they continued the practice. The local officers said they were unable to obey Tobin's order because of conditions prevailing within the local at that time. The court action followed.



Attacking the House-approved Hobbs bill as an attempt to crucify all labor, President Daniel J. Tobin of International Brotherhood of Teamsters (above) announced that he would fight it to the end.—Federated Pix.

Describing the Hobbs bill as "perhaps the greatest injury that could have been done to labor," Tobin said: "Those who favored the measure and its passage should be remembered on next election day by the men and women who toil throughout the nation, organized and unorganized, because it is another attempt to shackle labor by throwing it into unending litigation to preserve the freedom and justice to which they are entitled as Americans, and which men and women have died to preserve."

SEASONAL SPURT BRINGS MORE JOBS

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Total employment in the United States, exclusive of agricultural workers, increased 413,000 last month to a total of 35,620,000, the Department of Labor reported.

All major industries reported employment gains. In trade establishments alone, reflecting pre-Christmas preparations, 226,000 workers were added to the payrolls. The number of government employes dropped 134,000, chiefly because of dismissals in the War and Navy Departments.

Despite the lay-off of 90,000 employes in aircraft and ship building, the total of actual production workers in factories increased 27,000 between October and November.

LABOR'S NEWS IN BRIEF

WASHINGTON.—Lining up with labor, President Truman told a fact-finding panel investigating the dispute between the United Auto Workers (CIO) and General Motors Corporation over a 30 per cent wage demand that it should have power to examine the books of the employer to determine "ability to pay." GM spokesmen had threatened to walk out on the hearings if its profits were considered by the panel.

★ ★ ★

WASHINGTON.—Full support of price and rent control was voiced by Secretary of Labor Lewis B. Schwellenbach in a statement before the Senate Small Business Committee.

★ ★ ★

WASHINGTON.—By a vote of 62 to 3, the Senate approved a wage increase for federal government employes averaging 11 per cent.

★ ★ ★

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind.—The Hobbs bill is another attempt "to crucify labor with endless legal procedure," President Daniel J. Tobin of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL) told Federated Press.

★ ★ ★

CHICAGO.—Invoking the procedure outlined under the railway labor act, the railroads tossed their dispute with 20 unions on wages and working conditions into the lap of the National Mediation Board.

★ ★ ★

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—Over-the-road truck drivers in the 7-state area west of the Mississippi river are gradually winning their strike for equalization of wages with the area east of the river. The drivers, members of International Brotherhood of Teamsters (AFL), left their trucks early in November.

★ ★ ★

COLORADO SPRINGS.—The tripartite National Shipbuilding Conference recessed here for the Christmas holidays after a sub-committee was appointed to take up the question of wages and prices with the Office of Economic Stabilization.

★ ★ ★

BRIDGEPORT, Conn.—A survey of Bridgeport manufacturers taken by the local Chamber of Commerce which threatened layoffs of 8,700 workers unless OPA goes out of business by February 15th was blown sky-high by OPA Administrator Chester A. Bowles and labor spokesmen.

★ ★ ★

AUSTIN, Tex.—The Rockefeller-connected Texas Co., which allegedly shipped oil to pre-war Japan and Franco Spain, is planning a heavily-financed anti-labor public relations campaign in the south's two major petroleum-producing states of Texas and Louisiana.

★ ★ ★

NEW YORK.—A $6 million yearly wage boost was ordered for women employes of General Electric Co. and Westinghouse Electric Co. by the National War Labor Board in a decision wiping out sex differentials in pay rates at the two companies.

★ ★ ★

NEW YORK.—A new contract bringing pay of 25,000 workers in 140 union-contract hotels up to the prevailing wage in the industry and carrying a no-strike, no-lockout clause was signed here by the New York Hotel Trades Council (AFL) and the Hotel Association of New York City.

THE KID LEARNS FAST - - By Charles



Labor Smashes Blitz Drive For Anti-Strike Measures

CONGRESS HALTS ACTION ON ANTI-LABOR BILL UNTIL AFTER HOLIDAYS

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The sudden blitz drive for the adoption of anti-labor legislation by Congress has been smashed!

Organized labor gained at least a temporary reprieve when the House and Senate Labor Committees voted to postpone action on the Norton-Ellender bill until after the holidays.

This vote constituted a repudiation of administration leaders who had demanded enactment of the measure before Christmas.

United opposition by all of organized labor and most of management is believed, in Congressional circles, to have dimmed any chance of adoption of the Norton-Ellender bill even after the committees resume consideration of the proposal after New Year's.

Both committees decided to broaden their inquiries to cover the entire field of labor-management relations next January. The members made it clear that they did not intend to act in haste and might take two months before deciding on legislation to recommend, if any. This was considered a highly favorable omen by organized labor leaders.

The Norton-Ellender bill was introduced to carry out the recommendations of President Truman for legislation outlawing strikes for 30 days when the Secretary of Labor certifies a dispute to the President and he names a fact-finding board to consider the case and make recommendations.

In reality, however, the bill goes far beyond the President's recommendations and is regarded as highly dangerous by the trade union movement. Even management representatives joined in opposing many sections of the measure.

Senate and House hearings probably will not be resumed until January 15th. In the meantime, all anti-labor legislation will be bottled up. This applies also to the Hobbs bill, which was passed by the House.

AFL President William Green led the attack on the Norton-Ellender bill at the hearings before the House Labor Committee, while the Senate group heard only government witnesses testifying in its favor.

Members of both committees indicated they were displeased with the punitive and restrictive features of the bill and expressed doubt that it would effectively prevent strikes if adopted.

Mr. Green emphasized that while the bill does not contain specific penalties, it would subject unions all over again to court injunctions and conspiracy charges which might lead to jail sentences for contempt of court.

The reprieve granted by Congress affords labor a glorious opportunity to marshal rank-and-file opposition to anti-labor legislation. Mr. Green urged all AFL members and organizations to write their Representatives and Senators during the recess urging defeat of such legislation.

GREEN FLAYS NORTON BILL WITH SEVEN-COUNT INDICTMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C.—In a vigorous denunciation of the Norton-Ellender Bill, AFL President William Green placed before the House Labor Committee a seven-count indictment of the compulsory, cooling-off, fact-finding measure.

The AFL chief charged:

"1—It invades the right to strike, which right labor must possess in order to procure economic justice.

"2—The proposal will serve as a signal to the states to pass similar laws applicable to intrastate disputes of every nature.

"3—Vital guarantees of the Norris-LaGuardia Act are automatically nullified or rendered worthless.

"4—The constitutional rights of freedom of speech, freedom of assemblage and freedom of the press are destroyed.

"5—Government by injunction is reestablished, subjecting violators to criminal contempt charges, and to imprisonment.

"6—The vicious "doctrine of conspiracy" in labor disputes is reestablished.

"7—Civil damage suits are authorized and encouraged, and such suits may be brought against the union, the officers thereof as individuals, and the individual members."

Answering questions by committee members, Mr. Green refuted the contention that labor ignores the public interest and presses for its own selfish advantage in its relations with management. He said:

"We are always conscious of the public interest and anxious to protect and preserve it. In my opinion, the public interest can best be protected in labor-industrial disputes by the following program:

"First, collective bargaining should be wholeheartedly accepted. Secondly, the best possible government conciliation and mediation service should be provided. Third, joint labor-management committees should be formed in each plant to develop cooperation and efficiency. Finally, unions and management should insert clauses in their contracts for voluntary arbitration of disputes."

ILGWU SEEKS 100,000 NEW MEMBERS

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.—A campaign to organize 100,000 workers throughout the country was launched by the executive board of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union (AFL), meeting here. The board voted to appoint 25 new organizers to carry out the membership drive in the west, midwest and south.

Ice Wagon Drivers To Install Officers On January 3rd

Ice Wagon Drivers and Helpers' Union, Local No. 610, will have their installation of officers at their next regular meeting on January 3, 1946. Officers-elect for 1946 are as follows:

Roy Meyers, president; Bennie Musgrove, vice president; Hal Ruby, financial secretary; C. McKay, recording secretary; Bob White, trustee for two years.

The officers of Local No. 519 of San Francisco have been invited to witness the installation.

A. A. Ogburn who has been recording secretary and on the executive board for the past 30 years is retiring from the Union Ice Co. and is taking a withdrawal card from this union. At this time he wishes to express his thanks to the members of Local No. 610 for their confidence in electing him to office for many years.

BAKERY WAGON DRIVERS RECEIVE PAY HIKE AFTER DISPUTE

As part of the settlement of the recent bakery dispute, Bakery Wagon Drivers and Salesmen's Union, Local 432, through its secretary, Paul Fuhrer, has announced the completion of the negotiations between the Bakers' Club, representing the baking industry, and the union, and the terms of a new contract to govern the future relationship of the union and the employers.

With the spread of the San Francisco strike to the Oakland side by the placing of pickets here by the San Francisco union, and the resulting involvement of Alameda County unions, the Alameda County Central Labor Council in coordinating the union activities in the East Bay, became a party with the Oakland Drivers' Union in bringing about a settlement of the dispute.

Under the new contract all classifications have been granted an increase of $7.20 per week retroactive to October 1, 1945; the regular work day and regular work week remain as previously with time and one-half for overtime. The new contract is to be written for a period of two years from October 1, 1945, to October 1, 1947; with the right of the union to open wages and hours next October.

Newspaper Hires $100-a-Week Scabs To Bust Typo Strike

LAFAYETTE, Ind.—Using strike-breakers imported from Chicago at a reputed pay of $100 a week, the Lafayette Journal & Courier resumed publication December 13th after having been closed by a printers' strike since November 27th.

Local 64, International Typographical Union (AFL), at once started a picket line claiming a lockout. The printers walked out when the company refused even to discuss a $7.00 weekly pay increase and the publication closed its doors.

Bureau of Reclamation Conducts Survey of Proposed Dam Site

In response to numerous local requests to relieve the critical water problem in the Placerville area, the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation has dispatched a survey crew to the North Fork of the Cosumnes River to make detailed studies of the proposed dam site for the Sly Park Reservoir. The proposed dam, which is one of the foothill features of the Central Valley Project outlined in the Bureau's forthcoming Comprehensive Basin Report, would serve these purposes:

1. It would supply supplemental water for the El Dorado Irrigation District and water for about 30,00 acres of new lands adjacent to the district.

2. It would provide a supplemental domestic water supply for the city of Placerville and other towns, and for summer homes, along Highway 50, all of which are in serious need of water.

3. Extra water developed would serve downstream users during dry periods or be available for export to other parts of the Central Valley Basin.

Bureau plans contemplate recognition of existing water rights, including riparian owners. No water would be exported until local needs of the area are provided for.

The proposed Sly Park Dam is one of the branches of the North Fork of the Cosumnes River, approximately 15 miles east of Placerville. The reservoir, the site of which is owned by the El Dorado Irrigation District, would store about 20,000 acre-feet of water. The dam would be an earth fill structure, about 140 feet high, with a crest length of about 600 feet.

ILO HEAD WELCOMES COORDINATION BY UNO

MONTREAL, Canada.—There is no reason to fear that the United Nations Organization's power to coordinate activities of various specialized intergovernmental agencies will be employed to restrict activities of the International Labor Organization, Director Edward J. Phelan said here following his return from the recent ILO conference in Paris. On the contrary, he said, establishment of the economic and social council of UNO would reinforce the ILO "for it will provide the means to secure the application of those international measures in the economic and financial fields without which the ILO's efforts in the field of international social policy must frequently fail."

FLORIDA OFFICIAL TAKES TWO MORE STEPS TO SMASH LABOR

TALLAHASSEE, Fla.—State Attorney General J. Tom Watson has made two more highly dangerous moves to smash organized labor in this southern state which the du Ponts of Delaware and Shipbuilder Andrew J. Higgins of New Orleans are eyeing as a testing ground for a union-busting, open shop policy for all America.

Watson appeared in Leon county circuit court here to ask **that the state employes' retirement law passed by the 1945** legislature be declared unconstitutional. Posing as the champion of the man in overalls, he is arguing that the law is null because it does not include day laborers.

Simultaneously he announced that he had put other state officials comprising the state cabinet "on record" to meet in Ocala to discuss enforcement of the anti-closed shop right-to-work amendment adopted in 1944 after a stiff campaign headed by Watson, the Christian Americans and the big citrus planters dominating the Florida Farm Bureau Federation.

No date was given for this meeting and Watson did not explain why it was being called in the little town of Ocala rather than in Tallahassee, the state capital. But Ocala is a tourist resort with plenty of rustic retreats where the state officials can hide away and chew over the mandatory open shop measure now being challenged in pending U. S. supreme court proceedings by both the AFL and CIO.

Watson's attack on the state employes' retirement plan, taking the form of a petition to enjoin the state from putting it into operation, was viewed by Florida labor leaders as a move to head off passage of social security legislation for privately employed workers and thereby hold down taxation for the powerful industrial and agricultural interests which he represents.

The law calls for salary deductions of five per cent by state employes participating with the state putting up a matching fund of two per cent. A great many of Florida's 9,000 employes have been contributing to the retirement plan since July. Each employe, however, has until January 1st to decide whether he wants to be included in the plan and may be reimbursed if he has already contributed.

Christmas Spirit

This is a Christmas story about labor and the veterans. The Central Labor Union of the American Federation of Labor in Washington, D. C., has just taken action in behalf of hospitalized veterans which should serve as an example for all other cities.

The CLU voted to present a Christmas gift to every soldier and sailor unfortunate enough to have to spend the holiday in nearby veterans' hospitals. For this purpose the union will use a $14,000 unexpended balance of a civilian defense fund raised during the war.

But that's not all. The veterans in Washington hospitals will not be forgotten by labor after Christmas. Many local unions are contributing to an additional fund which will be used to send wounded veterans to baseball and football games next year. And some of the unions are picking their prettiest girls to visit and entertain the boys regularly.

This sounds like such a good plan that we hope other labor groups will be quick to adopt it too.

UNEMPLOYMENT NOW HITS OTHER STATES

WASHINGTON, D. C.—A trend indicating that unemployment is spreading away from some former war production areas to other states was reported by the Social Security Board.

In a report based on compensation claims, the board said that on a national basis the ratio of claims to jobs covered by insurance remained virtually unchanged from September 29th to November 24th, when it was 5.7 per cent.

"But behind this picture of uniformity in nation-wide industrial unemployment," the board said "there have been marked changes in insurance claims loads in the various states."

Merritt Business School Announces Winter Term Of Evening Classes

Classes start January 7, 1946; advance registration, January 2nd and 3rd, 1946, from 6:00 to 9:00 p. m.

Following are the subjects: Bookkeeping and accounting—all levels, income tax accounting, payroll accounting, looseleaf accounting, accounting machines—Burroughs, Elliott-Fisher, Sundstrand, Underwood, arithmetic, adding machines, billing, business law, business correspondence, business personality, business speaking (public speaking).

Civil service coaching, calculating machines—key drive, comptometer, Borroughs, Rotary, Friden, Marchant, Monroe; dictating machines—dictaphone, ediphone; filing, income property management, key punch machines, practical English, real estate law, salesmanship—specialty and retail; shorthand—theory, review theory dictation and transcription; typewriting — all levels; traffic management; vocabulary and spelling.

Merritt Business School is located at 240 East Tenth street, Oakland 2, California; telephone GLencourt 9240.

RAILROADS ADMIT GOUGING; PAY UP

The Department of Justice announced recently that the railroads had agreed to pay Uncle Sam $4,000,000 under a recent I. C. C. decision upholding charges that they had been gouging the War and Navy departments on shipments of armor steel.

The matter was settled out of court to avoid long litigation, according to Attorney General Tom C. Clark.

KEEP BUYING BONDS, DRIVE NOT YET OVER

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Don't stop buying Victory Bonds yet. The drive for the sale of Series "E" bonds will not end until December 31st, the Treasury Department announced. In a release to the Labor Press, the department said:

"Thousands of wage-earners buy their bonds by allotments made every payday over the full two-months accounting period. In all its drive operations the Treasury "keeps its score" by counting only completed purchases which have finally cleared through Federal Reserve Banks. This is the reason why the drive period for "E" bond sales is always longer than for other types of government bonds.

"We therefore need your sustained support for the Victory Loan through December 31st."

AFL LEADER PROPOSED FOR GOVERNMENT POST

SAN DIEGO.—Robert E. Noonan, longtime secretary-treasurer of the San Diego Central Trades & Labor Council, has been indorsed by the Democratic County Central Committee for the post of U. S. Customs Collector here.

The recommendation went to Representative Ed V. Izac of San Diego, Senator Sheridan Downey and President Truman. If appointed Noonan will fill the vacancy left by W. B. George, due to retire December 31st after 12½ years in the position.

Bus Strike in the Southwest Ends

KANSAS CITY.—Strike of Southwestern Greyhound bus line employes ended here following announcement of a strike settlement at Fort Worth, Texas. Details of the settlement were not announced.

Ending of the walkout brought reopening of the Union bus terminal, which is operated by Greyhound. The strike had affected ticket sellers, porters, etc.

Other bus lines using the terminal sold tickets on the street and loaded from the curb in order not to pass picket lines in front of the terminal.

Congress Recesses to January Fourteenth

WASHINGTON. — Congress recessed December 20th until January 14th when it adopted a concurrent resolution introduced in the House. Most members of the House and Senate will trek back to their home districts for the holidays, giving representatives of organized labor an opportunity to see them on the vast back-log of major legislation yet untouched by the 79th session of the national assembly.

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LADIES' AUXILIARY NEWS . . .

How the Women Are Helping Through Their Organizations

LABOR TEMPLE AUXILIARY

Christmas being over with, everyone is probably worn out from the excitement and all. I know that I, for one, have had very little time this week to devote to gathering news for this column, so please excuse its brevity and lack of news.

Two of our members will celebrate birthdays in the near future: Marie Peterson, 4068 Allendale avenue (2), New Year's Day, the 1st; and Estelle Rogers, 9 Linda avenue (11), the 2nd. Best wishes for a very happy birthday, Marie and Estelle.

Ruth Robbins will celebrate her wedding anniversary the fifth of January. Congratulations and best wishes, Ruth.

Oral Glenn's husband, John, walked in on her Christmas day, which was somewhat of a surprise. John is reporting to Camp Shoemaker for discharge from the Navy.

Don't forget the change in the date of our next regular meeting and social—January 15th.

May I wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year.

DOROTHY THRALL,
Recording Secretary.

CARPENTERS' AUXILIARY No. 160

Hello everybody:

Merry Christmas! Christmas — what magic there is to the word! Peace and Christmas—what more could anyone ask for? Our first peacetime Christmas in four years. Long, heartbreaking years that cost so much in blood and sweat! Let us then, this year, make the most of these holidays, but let us not forget to also give a silent prayer for those who sleep ever so peacefully and for those homes that have a vacant chair and thank God that our loved ones are back again with us.

In some homes this will be the first Christmas in a long time that the family has all been together. There will be a brightly decorated tree and under it piles and piles of gayly wrapped packages—children with eager faces, trying hard to be very good lest Santa pass them by. There is Mother hurrying from hither to you fixing that dinner "just so" and all the good old smell that we never seem to get only at Christmas time. Grand? You bet it's grand! And it's grand to be home and to be an American! So again I say, "Merry, Merry Christmas to each and every one of you!"

Ida and Frank Leroy are spending the holidays in El Centro with her daughter, Mrs. Oliva Spore and family. Do have a nice time, Ida, we will be waiting to hear all about it.

Bea Christianson and hubby Jake are here celebrating Christmas with their family. Seems so nice to have you with us, Bea. We miss you so!

President Levah Pedersen wanted this thought given you:

Not only at Christmas, but always,
May God's love and blessing impart
A feeling of gladness abiding,
And peace and good cheer to your heart!

Don't forget business meeting tonight, December 28th, at 8:30 o'clock. Let's all be there!

Goodnight and happy New Year.

JOSEPHINE WOOLDRIDGE,
Press Correspondent.

Striking Truck Drivers Winning Fight For Equity

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Over-the-road truck drivers in the 7-state area west of the Mississippi river are gradually winning their strike for equalization of wages with the area east of the river. The drivers, members of International Brotherhood of Teamsters left their trucks early in November.

Previously the union had dealt with an association comprising truck operators in the 7-state area. The drivers refused to negotiate any longer with this association and demanded an agreement with the larger association comprising a 12-state area on both sides of the river. Mileage rates have been higher in the states east of the river and an agreement with the 12-state group would mean an increase in mileage rates for drivers west of the Mississippi.

A large number of individual companies have signed agreements, according to union officials, and the bulk of drivers have gone back to work under agreements which either increase the mileage rates or pledge the companies to abide by the terms of a settlement when finally made.

Truck operators have argued that since hauls are longer west of the Mississippi, mileage rates for drivers need not be high as in the area east of the river. Meanwhile, railroads have experienced a large increase in freight shipments and in some few places the railroads have declared freight embargoes on shipments.

It were better for a man to be subject to any vice than to drunkenness.—Sir Walter Raleigh.

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Plumbers and Gas Fitters' Notes

By S. J. DONOHUE

The President's announcement that priorities on building materials and ceilings on housing are again necessary is an encouraging sign that an early solution of our national housing shortage will be forthcoming. Washington is definitely becoming worried at the continued diversion of builders' efforts and short-stocked materials away from the low and middle income groups who lack decent housing to the high income homes and industrial, commercial and recreational projects. The President's action is a partial and temporary solution that can only last for the "wartime" emergency. Yet the housing shortage is more acute now by the plight of returning veterans — has been permanent and cumulative. Stressing the profit motive, builders have long neglected the middle-income group (approximately $1,500 to $2,500) which comprises some nine million families and will probably comprise eleven and one-half million families within ten years. Unable to pay more than $3,000 to $5,000 for a home, and unprovided for by public housing, they find themselves in the "no-man's-land" of the building trade. Investment funds and reasonably priced materials are also lacking for low-cost housing projects. Hence slum clearance proceeds at a snail's pace while unessential building that promises higher returns goes forward. Broader loan-insurance and a coordination of efforts and agencies under a single administration seem called for. Meanwhile, veterans and the American Association of University Women are protesting the $10,000 priorities ceiling.

The next regular meeting of the local union will be held on Wednesday evening, January 9, 1946.

Green Asks Truman To Veto U. S. E. S. Rider

WASHINGTON.—In a letter to President Harry S. Truman December 13th, AFL President William Green asked the chief executive to veto H.R. 4407, passed by both houses of Congress, because it carries a rider returning the U. S. Employment Service to the states.

Green wrote that he had detailed the full AFL position some six months ago, and at that time congratulated Truman on the transfer of the U. S. Employment Service to the Department of Labor, "but I am sure you will agree that the effectiveness of this desirable action will be nullified if the present proposal is approved, dividing the operation of this vital service into more than 48 separate units."

The AFL chief recalled that Secretary of Labor Lewis Schwellenbach has already recommended the veto and added that "this substantiates the position of the AFL that the working people of this nation are aware of the urgent need for a national employment service.

"I respectfully call to your attention," the letter went on, "that the provision in this measure providing for the transfer of the employment service to the states was taken by Congress without hearings before the appropriate committee in either house. Legislation dealing with this matter is now under consideration by the Senate Committee on Education and Labor. Your veto of the present measure would provide opportunity for a decision on this important question to be made by the Congress after due consideration on the merits and after opportunity has been given to the opponents of federal operation to be heard.

$5,000 a Plate at AFL Victory Dinner

HOLLYWOOD.—At swank Ciro's four AFL unions cosponsored a $5,000-a-plate victory bond dinner, formal and by invitation only.

The date was December 17th, the unions—the Cooks, Waiters, Musicians and Variety Artists. Members of each union gave services for the fashionable affair. Cooperating in sponsorship was the Los Angeles beverage industry and the American Women's Volunteer Services.

Labor Representative William Ring of the U. S. Treasury pointed out that in the preceding bond drive, an aquacade event under the same sponsorship resulted in the sale of $26 million in the government securities.

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HOTEL WORKERS WIN EQUITY WAGE BOOSTS

NEW YORK.—A new contract bringing pay of 25,000 workers in 140 union-contract hotels up to the prevailing wage in the industry and carrying a no-strike, no-lockout clause was signed here by the New York Hotel Trades Council (AFL) and the Hotel Association of New York City.

Total pay raises and other benefits in the contract are estimated at several million dollars a year. Retroactive to June 1, the 3-year contract provides a 25 to 40 per cent increase in the base wages of employes, bringing to a substantial part of the workers now getting less than these scales increases of up to $11 a week. Other features of the contract are:

Extension of paid vacations up to two weeks, according to length of service.

Four legal holidays a year with pay, or double pay if employes are required to work these holidays, the first time such a procedure has been adopted in the industry.

Establishment of a joint employment agency by the Hotel Association and the union through which hotels obtain their help, and an agreement to combat abuses of fee-charging hotel employment agencies.

Continuation of the employer-paid life, health and accident insurance and family hospitalization program established in March.

A clause barring discrimination in employment because of race, creed, color or national origin.

AFL Unions Ending Self-Housing Shortage Problem

LOS ANGELES.—Important AFL organizations here are preparing to relieve their own "housing shortage" by building notable structures.

One is the Los Angeles Central Labor Council, which has announced plans for a $4 million height-limit office building and adjacent auditorium to provide a striking replacement for its 30-year-old Labor Temple in the heart of what has become the city's flophouse district.

Another is the Council of Hollywood Guilds & Unions, which plans a centrally located structure in Hollywood to house many of the motion picture unions and guilds. A non-profit building association has been organized to finance the building. It will have a board of governors with one representative from each participating union.

Option has been purchased on 12 acres of land near the famous Hollywood Bowl and fronting for 1,400 feet on busy Cahuenga Boulevard, which runs from the heart of Hollywood right over the pass to the place where any resident can sing, "I make the San Fernando valley my home."

The days of the dirty hole-in-the-wall reached up rickety flights of stairs, or the obscure office on a side street, are gone for organized labor in this area.

A. F. of L. TEAMSTERS KEEP FIT

SEATTLE. — Washington teamsters are bursting with culture.

Not the kind that comes from musty old books, but from workouts at the Physical Cuture School opened here by Joint Council of Teamsters No. 28 (AFL) for its members and their sons. The weekly classes — free, of course — are supervised by two expert instructors in physical training.

Truman Asks Congress For Full Employment Bill

WASHINGTON.—In identical letters to Senator Robert F. Wagner (D., N. Y.) and Representative Carter Manasco (D., Ala.) President Truman, December 20th, called for passage by Congress of the modified Senate version of the full employment bill.

Truman said the Senate version modified the language of the original measure "but did not remove its essential provisions. On December 14th, however, the House sent to conference a wholly new measure lacking the essential features of the full employment bill as passed by the Senate.

"In my opinion, no bill which provides substantially less than the Senate version can efficiently accomplish the purposes intended. I hope that the Congress will adopt a bill substantially in the form passed by the Senate," Truman said.

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Transparent Dental Plates
Reasonable Prices
Dr. Rassier & Dr. Fallgren
DENTISTS
Offices Above Owl Drug Store
ENTRANCE AT 13th AND BROADWAY

STEAMFITTERS' NOTES

By O. T. "Curley" DAVIS

With Christmas over and held within the safekeeping of our memories, we must not forget that soon the New Year will be here with all its joys and fun, and sometimes problematic burdens, so perhaps we, all of us, should begin to prepare to meet these contingencies, and your writer would suggest that one way to start would be for us all to attend our meetings regularly, and as a must, the local's dance and buffet supper, at which time your newly elected officers will be installed. The above is to be held on Tuesday, January 8th, 1946, at the City Club Hotel, 14th and Alice streets, at 8:00 p. m.

Just received a letter from James Tripp stating he was honorably discharged from the Navy on November 28, 1945. Also that his ship was sunk in the Okinawa battle, and he lost all of his belongings but was able to save himself. Kinda rough going, eh, what?

We also have just had a very interesting chat with John Hoffman T Sgt. 4. Johnny received his honorable discharge from the Army on December 4th. He served with the 3513th Ordnance and saw duty in Normandie, France, Rhineland, and Central Europe. He has four battle stars for that area. The group he was assigned to serviced the 29th and 35th Infantry Division, the 2nd Signal Corps, and the 1104th Engineers. You know, of course, that the men in the Ordnance Service had quite a rough time of it as they had to supply the various combat troops with ammunition, food and other essential combat needs. Yes, and nearly always under enemy fire. Imagine riding ahead on a truckload of ammunition with people shooting at you, not with mere marbles, but with bullets, bombs, etc., and shooting for keeps. Hats off to these brothers and we hope you will never again be faced with the horrors of war.

Remember! City Club Hotel dance and buffet supper, January 8, 1946, at 8:00 p. m. See you then, and let's dance!

AFL POLITICAL ACTION GROUP ELECTS OFFICERS

LOS ANGELES. — The United AFL, political arm of AFL unions in Los Angeles county, waded into its work for the coming year by electing new officers by acclamation.

Unanimously elected were: Chairman, Raymond F. Leheny, International Brotherhood of Teamsters; vice chairman, Lloyd Mashburn, Building Trades Council; treasurer, Mae Stoneman, Hotel and Restaurant Employes' International Alliance; and executive secretary, W. J. Bassett, who is also secretary-treasurer. of the Los Angeles Central Labor Council.

The election was the first held under a new constitution recently adopted by the political action group, which represents 42 councils and 400 locals in the county.

First political move of the group was to indorse Representative Cecil R. King (D.) for the Senate. Although King had not officially announced his candidacy, one UAFL spokesman said: "But we want him to come out. Who picked some of these jerks we have in public office anyway? It's usually some little clique that picks them and then rams them down our necks, leaving us only a Hobson's choice."

SENATE APPROVES PAY BOOST FOR WORKERS

WASHINGTON.—By a vote of 62 to 3, the Senate, December 19th, approved a wage increase for federal government employes averaging 11 per cent. Voting against the increases were Senators Tom Connally (D., Tex.), W. Lee O'Daniel (D., Tex.) and Allen J. Ellender, (D., La.).

The bill was written by Senator Sheridan Downey (D., Cal.) and amended by economy-minded Senator Harry F. Byrd (D., Va.) who substituted a sliding scale ranging from six to 13 per cent for Downey's original proposal of a flat 20 per cent increase.

Under the bill now before the House District Committee for action after January 14th, workers making $1440 a year now would get $1632, or 13.33 per cent more. For employes making $2100, the increase would amount to 11.43 per cent or $2340; for those now earning $3640, it would be 9.67 per cent or $3992. Federal employes earning $9275 a year would be raised 6.68 per cent or to $9895.

NEGOTIATIONS BREAK DOWN

STAMFORD, Conn. — Efforts to reopen negotiations between the Yale & Towne Mfg. Co. and striking members of International Association of Machinists broke down here when the company demanded that its entire union contract be put on the discussion block. The union rejected this proposal, declaring it did not intend to reopen discussion of issues already negotiated.

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Carmen's Union. Division No. 192
LOOK FOR THIS EMBLEM
RETAIL UNION STORE
WHEN YOU BUY FOOD

T & D THEATRE
OPEN ALL NIGHT!
Ends Sunday, December 30th
"DALTONS RIDE AGAIN"
.....AND.....
"RIVER GANG"
Starts New Year's Eve
ERROL FLYNN in
"SAN ANTONIO"
In Technicolor with
Alexis Smith - Paul Kelly
Victor Francen

ESQUIRE
OPEN ALL NIGHT!
Ends Sunday, December 30th
"HOUSE OF DRACULA"
.....AND.....
"PILLOW OF DEATH"
Starts New Year's Eve
Rosalind Russell, Lee Bowman
"SHE WOULDN'T SAY YES"
.....ALSO.....
"MY NAME IS JULIA ROSS"
Nina Foch

ROXIE THEATRE
HELD OVER!
MERLE OBERON
CLAUDE RAINS
CHARLES KORVIN
RALPH MORGAN
.....In.....
"THIS LOVE OF OURS"
.....ALSO.....
Inner Sanctum Mystery
"STRANGE CONFESSION"
Lon Chaney - Brenda Joyce

PARAMOUNT
Ends Sunday, December 30th
"ABBOTT & COSTELLO IN HOLLYWOOD"
.....ALSO.....
"Dangerous Partners"
Starts New Year's Eve
ROBERT MONTGOMERY
JOHN WAYNE
"They Were Expendable"
GALA MIDNIGHT SHOW
NEW YEAR'S EVE

FOX-OAKLAND
OPEN ALL NIGHT!
Ends Monday, December 30th
JOHN WAYNE
"DAKOTA"
'Scotland Yard Investigator'
Starts Monday, December 31st
BETTY HUTTON
"THE STORK CLUB"
Also Zane Grey's
"WANDERER OF THE WASTELAND"

ORPHEUM
OPEN ALL NIGHT!
Now Playing!
FRED ASTAIRE
Lucille Bremer - Frank Morgan
"YOLANDE AND THE THIEF"
In Gorgeous Technicolor!
.....ALSO.....
EDWARD ARNOLD
"THE SEEING EYE"
Plan to attend our GALA NEW YEAR'S EVE SHOW



A U. S. Employment Service survey in three typical industrial cities shows that men workers who received $50-$60 a week are now being offered take-home pay of from $33-$36, while women who made the same wages are now offered take-home pay of $25-$29.—From the Advance via Federated Pix.

Governor's Water Conference Turned Into a People's Forum By Advocates Of Anti-Monopoly Control Of the Central Valleys Project

SAN FRANCISCO.—With representatives of the American Federation of Labor, California State Grange, church and consumer groups forcefully and vigorously fighting for the development of the Central Valleys Project, in order that its power will be made available to the small farmer at the lowest cost, the Water Conference called by Governor Warren in Sacramento on December 6th and 7th became a "People's Forum."

Exposing the attempts of the power trust to block completion of the Central Valleys Project for their own selfish interest, the representatives of the people clearly and unequivocally presented the vital issues involved and the need to permit the Bureau of Reclamation to continue developing the project in the interest of the people of the state.

The position taken by the California State Federation of Iabor was presented in a clear-cut statement by C. J. Haggerty, secretary of the Federation, which was read by J. L. R. Marsh, secretary of the Sacramento Federated Trades Council, as Secretary Haggerty was unable to attend the conference due to a meeting of the Federation's Executive Council which took place at the same time in Hollywood.

George Sehlmeyer, State Grange master and chairman of the Central Valleys Project Conference, stated as follows:

"Transmission lines should be constructed to carry the power developed, not only to the points where it is needed for pumping within the project itself, but to make such power available for industrial use and to such political subdivision as may wish to enter into a contract with the government to purchase this power. It is unthinkable that the federal government should expend millions to develop a power project, and then turn the energy developed over to a private utility for resale to the people, at a profit to themselves."

In a statewide election in 1933, the people of California authorized the Bureau of Reclamation to build the Central Valleys Project by passing the Water and Power Act. Frank McDonald, president of the A. F. of L. State Building Trades Council, who was also present at the conference, stated:

"It may not be clear to everybody yet, but it's clear to organized labor now and will be clear to everybody before long, that the people have to win the same old fight of the 1920's and 1930's all over again in the 1940's. Today, as then, private power is trying to block the project . . ."

The machinations of the power interests were exposed by the various speakers. In the Federation's statement, submitted by Secretary Haggerty, the crux of the issues involved was summarized in the following words:

"Again we wish to stress the need for unification of features within the Central Valleys, and reiterate that only the Bureau of Reclamation is qualified or equipped to consummate such imperative unity, with its obligation by law to respect local and state rights in its administration . . . We welcome the full development of hydro-electric power, publicly generated and transmitted, as a feature essential to the irrigation system, and as a development so tardy as to endanger this state's industrial welfare."

The House of Representatives recently eliminated funds for the construction of transmission lines. It is to be hoped that these will be restored by the Senate, in which case, the settlement of this question so vital to the further development of the water of California's valleys, will depend upon a conference of representatives of both houses.

Labor, together with the farmers and consumer groups, will continue to fight for the proper utilization of the water resources of this state, and to combat the monopoly of our water rights by the utility interests.

How Right They Are

DENVER. — A majority of the public—58 per cent— agrees with organized labor that most big businessmen are making more than a fair profit, according to a poll taken by the National Opinion Research Center.

More favorable to small businessmen were 54 per cent, who thought they were making a fair profit. A 57 per cent believe that the government should decide what is a fair profit for big business, while a plurality of 46 per cent feel that the government should decide that point for small businessmen, too.

Surprising practically no one was the survey's finding that a majority of only one population group—the wealthy—think that big businessmen are now making a fair profit. The largest percentages replying "More than fair" came from the less privileged groups economically and occupationally.

Teachers' Union Forces City To Pay Up Salary Arrears

DETROIT.—Brought to book in the state circuit court by the Detroit Federation of Teachers (AFL) the board of education of the city of Detroit was ordered by the court on December 19th to pay not only the back salaries but interest besides to 825 teachers. The city had chiseled 50 per cent of all teachers' pay during May and June in one of the Hoover depression years. It later paid half of the back pay and agreed to pay the other half this month but refused to pay any interest.

Counsel Edward N. Barnard of the Detroit & Wayne County Federation of Labor, who also represents the teachers, fought the case at law and obtained the verdict for about $130,000 interest. Now he is filing suit for all other teachers affected, which will bring the amount to be recovered from the reluctant board up to about $1,000,000.

Then he will appear for the Fire Fighters (AFL) and city employes in the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employes (AFL) who were similarly shortchanged by the city, probably totaling another million.

The city plans to appeal but seems to have a weak case since it collects interest on sums due it such as taxes.

McClintock's Mutterings

By A. B. McCLINTOCK

In answer to the several thousands of letters that I did **not** receive as to why no column last week all I can say is—

No could do, no could do,
Too much Christmas mail and time too few,
Uncle Stevie Graham say, "Mail must go through,
And to cap it off, I catchum flu.

With apologies to the author of the popular song of similar title.

★ ★ ★

All joking aside, this has been one of the toughest Christmases insofar as the letter carriers are concerned, in the history of the Oakland Post Office. It is, of course, always tough at this time of the year but to add to the troubles of the mailman this year it has rained almost continuously since the heavy mail started to come in, and most of the carriers, at least in the main office, have been fighting severe colds and working when they should have been home in bed. I think Steve Graham, the postmaster, and Art McPhail, the superintendent of mails, is rather proud of the fighting spirit they showed in keeping the mail moving.

★ ★ ★

One of the major mysteries to me is how much longer the people are going to stand idly by and see one group of public servants get the business in regard to working hours. I refer to the firefighters of the state in general and this city in particular. Do you know of any other group that has to put in 84 to 86 hours per week for a week's pay? And no overtime either. They are talking about eight million unemployed by the middle of next summer. They talk about a 6-hour day, (which, by the way, is one of my pets) and a shorter work week, yet nothing is done to alleviate the working conditions of as loyal and conscientious group of men as exists. The firemen are striving to achieve a 48-hour week, which seems reasonable enough in this day and age.

★ ★ ★

There are some who say that the firemen have an easy time of it. Well, if you think that is true, just try and go through what they do in all kinds of weather when there is a devastating conflagration. Most of you have seen and read of many firemen carried out overcome by smoke, and sometimes seriously burned and maimed for life trying to save a dumb cluck who ran back into a blazing house to save some precious heirloom, or a pet canary. Yet the firemen get far too little credit for the splendid job they do.

★ ★ ★

Fashion note, — a new department.

Note with some amusement a published list of the ten most beautifully dressed women in the world. The list includes only those in the best circles, of course. Rich men's wives, motion picture stars, career men's wives, and one Congresswoman. It's mighty easy to be well dressed when you have the sky as the limit when it comes to spending money.

To me the best dressed women are those who manage to look sleek and well groomed on the limited budget allowed by financial circumstances. There are millions of American girls who can look like a million dollars with one one-hundredth of the dough spent by those in the so-called best circles. My hat is off to them and they are, in my opinion, the really best dressed, yet they don't see their pictures in the society columns.

Let Congress Know

With most Senators and Representatives back home for the holidays, organized labor is taking its message direct and letting their representatives know it is watching their vote on these bills, among others:

POLL TAX REPEAL (H.R. 7) — **Tell your Senator labor wants the poll tax repealer brought to the floor and passed without amendments. A vote for cloture to block windy filibusters, is necessary, too.**

HOBBS BILL (H.R. 32) — **The Senate is next to act on this anti-labor bill already sped through the House. Point out its vague, broad wording to prove that it is a threat to picket-lines, legal strikes and other legitimate activities of unions. State laws already ban racketeering.**

TRUMAN PLAN (H.R. 4908) (S. 1661) — **Here are two 30-day cooling off period-fact-finding bills that start us on compulsory arbitration and stop free collective bargaining. President Truman asked for them, but all labor and most of U. S. management is opposed to the plan.**

FEPC (S. 101) (H.R. 2232) — **With FEPC just a shell, without funds and operating only two or three of its branch offices, the bills making it a permanent agency are "musts." If 61 more Representatives sign Discharge Petition No. 4, the House rules committee must allow it to come up for a vote. Urge more Republicans to sign and to vote for the bill. It's time for the GOP to live up to its Chicago platform.**

TRUMAN SAYS WAGE PANELS MUST LOOK INTO MANAGEMENT'S EARNINGS

WASHINGTON.—In the midst of heated arguments between management and labor about the ability of management to pay wage increases because of its high profit position, President Harry S. Truman issued a statement December 20th saying fact-finding panels have the authority to "examine the books of the employer."

The Truman bombshell, startling to management of the nation's largest corporations, was expected to bring about a resumption of collective bargaining in many fields as executives maneuvered to avoid having a governmental body look into earnings.

Truman's statement said that in naming fact-finding boards in disputes involving wages, among other issues, "it is essential to a fulfillment of its duty that the board have the authority, whenever it deems it necessary, to examine the books of the employer. to pay an increase in wages where such ability is in question. Ability to pay is always one of the facts relevant to the issue of an increase in wages."

Easing the blow somewhat, Truman said "this does not mean that the government or its fact-finding board is going to endeavor to fix a rate of return for the employer. It does mean, however, that since wages are paid out of earnings, the question of earnings is relevant.

"The detailed information obtained from the books of an employer should not be made public. Such a disclosure would place the employer at a disadvantage with respect to his competitors. But the fact-finding board should unquestionably have the right to examine the employer's books where it deems it necessary in order to make up its own mind as to whether a demand for an increase is justified, and to make public all findings based on such information, that it deems relevant to the controversy."

Truman made it clear, however, that fact-finding boards do not now have the power to examine books, as the "right to examine books is one of the main purposes of granting subpoena power to the fact-finding boards. I trust that the Congress, which is the only body authorized to grant such power, will do so quickly."

In the meantime, he said, in view of the public interest "it would be highly unfortunate if any party to a dispute should refuse to cooperate with a fact-finding board."

FORT WORTH AFL RAPS C. B. DeMILLE, SMITH

FORT WORTH, Tex.—The Not Welcome sign was hung up by the Fort Worth Trades Assembly (AFL) when it heard Cecil B. DeMille, movie producer, and Gerald L. K. Smith were scheduled to speak here.

A resolution adopted by the central labor body said: "It has been announced in the newspapers that Cecil B. DeMille, motion picture producer who has suddenly developed a violent anti-union phobia which places him foremost among the nation's avowed labor haters, and the 'Rev.' Gerald L. K. Smith, notorious rabble rouser and trouble maker, are soon to fill a speaking engagement in Fort Worth.

"Fort Worth Trades Assembly, believing in the right of free speech, does not oppose their coming here, but does appeal to the good citizens, the business interests and the city council to refrain from giving encouragement to these enemies of order, labor tranquility and the well being of the public."

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TERRIFIC 3 HOUR
NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE PARTY
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THE TOP TUNE HITS OF 1945
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THE TOP HOTEL ORCHESTRAS
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THE TOP VOCALISTS
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KROW 10pm til 1am
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The advertisements printed in the Journal do not necessarily reflect the editorial policy of this paper, the same being paid advertising.

JOURNAL PRESS

Hobbs Bill Threat To U. S. Labor

Is the Hobbs bill (H.R. 32) just a simple, honest effort to stop racketeering as most daily newspapers are claiming, or is it a measure designed to throttle unions?

To settle the question, readers of the Labor Journal should scan H.R. 32 itself and take particular notice of the commerce clause.

After outlining the legal meaning of robbery and extortion as including the taking or obtaining of property from another, by means of "actual or threatened force, violence or fear, or under color of official right," the bill's text says:

"Sec. 2. Whoever in any way or degree obstructs, delays or affects commerce, or the movement of any article or commodity in commerce, by robbery or extortion shall be guilty of a felony.

"Sec. 3. Whoever conspires with another or others, or acts in concert with another or with others to do anything in violation of Sec. 2 shall be guilty of a felony.

"Sec. 4. Whoever attempts or participates in an attempt to do anything in violation of Sec. 2 shall be guilty of a felony.

"Sec. 5. Whoever commits or threatens physical violence to any person or property in furtherance of a plan or purpose to do anything in violation of Sec. 2 shall be guilty of a felony.

"Sec. 6. Whoever violates any section of this title shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by imprisonment for not more than 20 years or by a fine of not more than $10,000 or both."

Under that language, a picket line or a strike vote might be interpreted by any unfriendly court as a threat of violence to persons or property, or to be a menace or obstruction to commerce. Many judges would say that a business agent seeing a boss about grievances or other union complaints threatened violence or the hindering of commerce by suggesting that the union might take action to win correction.

A LESSON IN INFLATION

A sample of what could easily happen in this country if price control was junked was shown to the people of Jackson, Tenn., with the cooperation of the OPA, a few days ago. A public auction was held. A brand new 1946 automobile of one of the lower priced makes, a 100-pound sack of sugar, and a 50-pound keg of lard, were offered to the highest bidder. The public was intensely interested.

On auction day a big crowd was on hand early to take part in the bidding. The brand new auto brought $2,500, the lard went for $15 and the sack of sugar was bid in at $35. Then the OPA stepped in and stopped the sales because prices were many times the ceiling prices.

Without OPA and price control, many similar scenes would be witnessed every day in this country. Prices would be driven sky-high. Only the people with a lot of money would be able to buy the necessities of life.

Demand the **UNION LABEL** *at all times!*

Surveys Find Vets Can't Afford $20 or $30 a Week Job Offers

The U. S. army of fighters for freedom is turning into an army of unemployed veterans, bewildered and angered at finding starvation-wage jobs masquerading as "job opportunities," two conservative daily newspapers admitted in New York in separate surveys.

A Wall Street Journal survey of veterans' employment in 11 major cities across the country reached this conclusion: "The rolls of jobless veterans are growing by leaps and bounds across the country. . . . Here and there, ex-servicemen are refusing to accept the kind of work available. They want a job with a future.

"This leads them often to turn down openings as gasoline station attendants although a California oil company is confident that they will be around looking for these jobs in a few months when unemployment gets more severe and they've run out of their discharge money."

A survey by the New York Herald December 21st reported that a minimum of 75,000 veterans will be back on the jobless relief rolls in New York state by January 15th—at least one unemployed out of every seven who have been discharged.

A typical case described by the Tribune was that of a 23-year-old married ex-paratrooper who glared when an employment counsellor at New York City selective service headquarters offered him a $26-a-week job as a learner in the chromium-plating trade.

"What are you trying to do, give away goldbricks?" the soldier was reported as saying. "I'm paying $70 a month rent and glad to have an apartment."

Most of the veterans have given up searching for those will-o'-the-wisp $100 and $125 a week jobs they heard about overseas, the Tribune said, but just the same, a great number consider the majority of current wage offers below their minimum family living needs.

The latest analysis of job offers at the U. S. Employment Service show that more than half—16,172—range in pay from $20 a week to $30 for a 40-hour week. Three hundred openings on the USES list actually offered the veterans less than the $20 weekly they can draw as unemployment relief.

Biggest problem is finding jobs for army officers with no special civilian training who cannot afford to live on the wages of their pre-war jobs, the Tribune survey found. There was, for example, the former Air Forces lieutenant who during his four years in service had acquired a wife and two children. But he can't support them on the $22 a week he now gets on his old job as a bank messenger.

An increasing number of veterans cannot even get their old jobs back, according to Col. Arthur V. McDermott, city selective service director, who reported a "startling" increase in the number of employers who have attempted to deny veterans reinstatement. Such cases ran from 30 to 50 a month during the early part of 1945 but in November they leaped to 485 and will probably be even higher in December, McDermott said.

Neither the Tribune nor Wall Street Journal, whose editorial columns are regularly filled with denunciations of "greedy" union members seeking wage increases, pointed out that the same job problems confront millions of ex-war workers. Nor did they say that more and more vets are right in the midst of organized labor's fight to win jobs for all at decent pay.

THIS EMPLOYER INSISTS ON ONLY UNION MEN

BRUNSWICK, Ga.—Jack Northrop, president of the Glynn Boat and Iron Works, won't hire anyone but union men, because he wants to be assured of having good mechanics.

Northrop, whose boat-building firm is signed up with the AFL, declared:

"I am interested in working only union labor. When I hire a man, he must be a first-class mechanic, or he will not stay long with my company."

Utility Workers Win 15% Increase

SAN DIEGO.—A willingness by labor and management to "split the difference" in collective bargaining has resulted in wage increases amounting to $450,000 annually for 1,200 employes of the San Diego Gas & Electric Co., one of southern California's largest privately-owned public utilities.

The union, Local B-465, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (AFL), had demanded a 20 per cent boost at the outset of negotiations. The company countered with a 10 per cent offer.

After four months of bargaining, the company granted, and the union membership accepted, a 15 per cent raise retroactive to mid-August. Unusual feature of the settlement was that although the union has jurisdiction over only mechanical employes, numbering about 800, the utility voluntarily applied the same increases to its 400 office workers. The raises will average about $1.50 a day, according to Howard Likes, union business agent.

ASK FOR THE UNION LABEL

STRIKES AT LABOR



In a "get labor" mood, the House passed the so-called anti-racketeering bill authorized by Representative Sam Hobbs (D., Ala.), above. Directed especially against International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the bill is a strikebreaking weapon which can damage all organized labor.—Federated Pix.

AFL Labor Chest Sets Up Vets' Dept.

NEW YORK.—A veteran's department to advise AFL workers returning from the armed forces on employment problems has been set up by the AFL New York Labor Chest. Honorably discharged veterans who are interested in entering trades organized by AFL unions will also be helped.

Head of the new department is Louis Weiss, an AFL member for 18 years who was recently discharged from the armed services after 38 months in the Seabees, including 22 months overseas.

AFL Tobacco Union Signs Pact With Philip Morris

RICHMOND, Va.—A new agreement between the Tobacco Workers' International Union, Locals No. 203 and 209, and the Philip Morris Tobacco Company has just been consummated, in which the makers of the famous Philip Morris cigarette granted to over 2300 employes the following concessions:

A blanket 6c an hour wage increase; six holidays per year with pay; two weeks' paid vacation and the agency plan, which provides that all employes covered under the agreement are required to bear their pro rata share of the operational cost of collective bargaining. Under this method, the company agrees to deduct from the pay of each employe who is a nonunion member, the same amount that is deducted as union dues from the pay of the union member, this sum being turned over to the local union having jurisdiction in the plant.

Demand the Union Label, Shop Card and Button.

Full Employment Theme of Dr. Max Radin Before Sciots' Club

"I would rather see a big country of millions of little fellows than a big country of big fellows and many small fellows who don't figure in," said Dr. "Max" Radin, professor at Boalt School of Law, University of California, and recently appointed to the post of California Commissioner of Uniform Laws.

During his luncheon address, the eminent educator pointed out that the question of full employment is not controversial. People are unanimously agreed upon the necessity for full employment. He went on to say the question is, how will it be done, and who will take this great responsibility? Is it up to business or is it a job for the government? Dr. Radin believes the people are in favor of business taking the job. He declared that no one wants the government as his sole employer.

The professor emphasized, that even though, at the present time, we are the richest and strongest nation in the world, if we have another depression we may never recover. He stressed that since we were able to have full employment producing for war, we can, also, have full employment producing for peace. Dr. Radin recommends large production and small profits rather than small production and large profits, however, if we produce enough at small profits to guarantee full employment, disposal of consumer goods will be a problem because of the lack of ready markets. His answer is shorter working days and longer vacations. In behalf of this recommendation he put over the point that this would make it possible to give more people jobs without increasing production. It would result in a nation of happier, healthier and more capable employes, and would give them the leisure time to enjoy spending part of their earnings on recreation and vacations.

Money spent on recreation and vacations, as well as on the bare necessities of life means money in circulation. That is what we need, full employment and circulation of dollars.

Dr. Radin summed it up with these challenging words: "If we do not get full employment in one way, we must get it in another."

Among those present to hear what Dr. Radin had to say were many professional, business and labor people, including Paul M. Gatze, a member of the Central Labor Council's committee for the 26-day annual vacation proposal, Sam Worswick, manager of the Masonic Employment Relief, Homer Buckley, noted attorney, Hugh Hagen, former city attorney, and many others.

FEPC POWERS RENEWED BY TRUMAN ORDER

WASHINGTON. — An executive order was issued by President Harry S. Truman December 20th establishing the right of the Fair Employment Practice Committee to investigate and report on employment practices in private industry.

Since the war, FEPC officials said, the right of the agency to look into discriminatory practices in private industry had been questioned, but they added that the new order gives FEPC no power to issue directives where discrimination is proven except in government agencies.

In granting FEPC the right to investigate and report, Truman charged that government agencies are practicing racial and religious discrimination in rehiring of personnel displaced by post-war retrenchment. He served notice on the heads of all agencies to clear up this situation.

The statement to the government agencies asked for a careful analysis of personnel policies and practices "in order that you can assure me that they are in accord with national law and policy and in order that all qualified workers in existing temporary war jobs will be considered fairly for appointments without distinction because of race, creed, color or national origin."

Genius, without religion, is only a lamp on the outer gate of a palace; it may cast a gleam of light on those without, but the inhabitant is in darkness.—Hannah More.

Physicians' Forum, Challenging AMA, Backs Truman's Medical Care Bill

NEW YORK CITY.—The Physicians' Forum strongly endorsed establishment of a nationwide health and medical care program to supply the medical needs of all Americans, thus taking issue with the American Medical Association.

The Physicians' Forum is a national organization of doctors, all members of the American Medical Association, who are interested in the extension of good medical care to all the people. In a telegram to President Truman, Dr. Ernest P. Boas, chairman of the Physicians' Forum, said:

"Our membership, composed largely of practicing physicians throughout the country who belong to the American Medical Association, most warmly commend you for your able and comprehensive message to the Congress on the state of the nation's health. You have made a telling presentation of the many unmet medical needs of the country, and have rightly pointed out that the masses of our citizens do not earn enough money to buy adequate medical care.

"We earnestly hope that the people of the country, through their Congress, will take immediate action to improve these conditions in accordance with your worthy proposal."

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National Nut Company,
362 Fourth St.
Sherwin-Williams Paint Co.
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